

NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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Volume XXVII.....No. 206

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.—THE COLLEEN BAWN.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, No. 84 Broadway.—FRA DIAVOLO.—IRISH MONKS.

WINTER GARDEN, Broadway.—FRANC AND QUIN.—BOB NATHAN.—KING COTTON.

NEW BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—LIFE AND ADVENTURES OF JACK SHEPPARD.—BEN HUNTER.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—HATLIN, THE REVEREND.—HOW TO AVOID DRAUGHTS.—ROBERT KIRK.

NIXON'S CREMONA GARDEN, Fifth Avenue and 34th Street.—OVERA, BALLET, FRENCH AND CONCERT AND ENTERTAINMENT.

BARNUM'S AMERICAN MUSEUM, Broadway.—THE LARGEST REAL LIVING FAIR, AT ALL TIMES. TWO FLOORS.—ENTERTAINMENT, MUSIC, AND STUNNING.

CHRISTY'S OPERA HOUSE, 53 Broadway.—ETROPIAN SONGS, DANCES, ACTS.—DOUBLED REVEREND ROSE.

WOOD'S MINSTER HALL, 53 Broadway.—ETROPIAN SONGS, DANCES, ACTS.—DOUBLED REVEREND ROSE.

HITCHCOCK'S THEATRE AND MUSIC HALL, Canal Street.—SONGS, DANCES, ENTERTAINMENT.

CAJETER'S CONCERT HALL, 516 Broadway.—DRAWING ROOM ENTERTAINMENT.

PARISIAN CABINET OF WONDERS, 563 Broadway.—Open daily from 10 A. M. till 10 P. M.

New York, Monday, July 28, 1862.

THE SITUATION.

General Halleck, Dix, Meigs, Burnside and McClellan have just had an interview at the headquarters of the latter.

The meeting between General Halleck and General McClellan is said to have been cordial as the former officer's opinion of the Potomac Army was laudatory and satisfactory.

General Halleck expressed himself highly gratified at the condition of the troops after their late severe trials in the field.

A vigorous programme is said to have been agreed upon, and that immediate activity is to be the order of the day.

The news from General Pope's command smacks also of coming action.

On Friday General Gibson, with a body of infantry, artillery and cavalry, was sent out on a reconnaissance in the direction of Gordonsville, to ascertain the position and force of the enemy.

The expedition proved quite successful. The party went within two miles of Orange Court House, where a short skirmish was had.

Several prisoners were taken, who reported five of the enemy killed and several wounded.

Jackson, with twenty thousand men, was between Orange Court House and Madison Court House, anticipating an advance of Gen. Pope in that direction.

Gen. Robertson was at the Court House, with two regiments and a battalion of cavalry, and Ewell's brigade lay three miles beyond.

Gen. Pope's Order No. 6, relative to the seizure of forage, was carried out admirably, to the great comfort of the troops and chagrin of the rebels.

Not a man of the expedition was captured or wounded.

A party of rebels boarded a schooner laden with 4,000 bushels of condemned corn on Saturday night, nearly opposite the headquarters of the army, which they set on fire.

Of course the loss of the grain was of no importance, being worthless. The rebels came from the opposite side of the river in a small boat at midnight.

We have some interesting news from the West. The Tenth Ohio regiment, which was guarding the Memphis and Charleston road, between Decatur and Courtland, was attacked on the 26th inst. by a large force of rebel guerrillas under General Stearns and General Ward.

Some thirty or forty of our troops were killed and the road was damaged to some extent.

It is said that there is a large rebel force at Tusculum, and that Colonel Forrest is at Carthage.

The supposed objective of this concentration is said to be an attack on the Louisville Railroad.

The Southern papers are commenting on the President's new call for troops, and they urge the immediate necessity of striking a blow before the new levies can be raised.

While doubting the practicability of procuring fresh men at the North, they advise that the rebel government shall act as though it could be done, and vigorously enforce conscription.

The report that the rebel ram Arkansas has been cut out by our gunboats under the batteries of the enemy at Vicksburg, which reached us previously from Cairo, is confirmed by the Grenada (late Memphis) Appeal, which admits the fact.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

The steamship Edinburg, from Liverpool, passed Cape Race on Saturday last, at seven o'clock P. M.

By her arrival we are in possession of European dates to the 17th inst.

In the absence of later news the English papers have but little to say on the war question.

The London Times reverts again to the new American tariff, and prophesies that it will prove more disastrous to American than English interests.

A despatch from India, from a private source, received in London, states that 115,000 bales of cotton had been shipped from Bombay in one week.

Parliamentary proceedings were unimportant. The revocation of Edwin James' patent as Queen's counsel had been officially announced.

At a banquet given in London by Mr. Rother, the French Minister of Commerce, M. Givon presiding, in proposing the health of Napoleon III., the chairman stated that the relations between England and France had never been in a more satisfactory condition.

A desperate contest between the Turks and Montenegrins was reported to have taken place near the Leutra river, the Turks proving victorious.

In London stocks were firm and advancing. The Paris Bourse was heavy and unchanged.

Our latest news from Vicksburg is up to Sunday evening, July 20.

At that time it was stated that a scheme was on foot to capture the rebel ram Arkansas.

The Grenada Appeal (rebel) says that Vicksburg was cut out from under the rebel batteries at Vicksburg by the Union gunboats Gen. Bragg and Sumner.

No date is given.

The statement that Gen. Butler's health is not good, and that he would be forced to leave New Orleans, is partially incorrect.

At last accounts he had entirely recovered, and was in good health and spirits.

Three steamboats arrived at Louisville on the 23d instant, from the Mississippi river, with one thousand one hundred and eighty-two bales of cotton.

During four days, from the 13th to the 16th instant, there arrived in New Orleans, by way of the river and in coasting vessels, one thousand five hundred and fifty hogsheads of sugar, and nine hundred and four bales of cotton.

A grand State war meeting is to be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on the 31st inst.

The Chamber of Commerce of Milwaukee have subscribed twelve thousand dollars in aid of enlistments.

Senator Chandler, of Michigan, proposes to raise a regiment and take the command himself.

If he should be ordered to the Potomac, General McClellan will probably place him in a position where he can enjoy a "little blood-letting."

The new comet discovered by Mr. Tuttle, at the observatory of Harvard College, is rapidly approaching the earth, and will be visible in the latter part of August.

Chemung county, in this State, has raised her full quota of the new levy, and the muster rolls have been received at the Adjutant General's office in Albany.

We publish elsewhere in our columns this morning accounts of the proceedings during commencement week at Union and Hamilton colleges, in this State, with the names of the graduating classes, and a description of the very interesting exercises that always mark these literary anniversaries.

Before the literary societies of Union College the Hon. Daniel S. Dickinson delivered, on the 22d inst., an eloquent and powerful address on the "Rebellion, its Causes and its Remedy," a synopsis of which will be found in our report.

The Board of Excise held its forty-seventh session on Friday last, and adjourned to Friday next, the 1st of August.

The number of licenses granted up to this date is 905, being the largest number granted in any year up to the corresponding session.

The reason why so many of the respectable liquor dealers have applied for license is that they have availed themselves of Supervisor Roche's resolution, which provides that all persons who have been subjected to violations of the Excise law may have the proceedings discontinued by obtaining license.

Over five hundred arrests were made last week, and the police have a large number of warrants in their possession, and expect to arrest several this week, as they are determined to enforce the Excise law.

A letter from the Hon. George Odyke, Mayor of this city, given elsewhere, requests that the flags on all public buildings and all vessels in port be raised to-day at half-mast, in respect to the memory of ex-President Van Buren, whose funeral will take place at Kinderhook at one o'clock this afternoon.

The remains of Lieutenant De Kay, brought by the steamer Fulton from New Orleans, were privately interred on Saturday, at Hempstead, Long Island, in the family burying ground.

The wool clip of Ohio will this year amount to thirteen millions of pounds—two millions greater than the clip of 1861.

The stock market was 1/2 to 3/4 per cent lower at the board on Saturday.

Gold was 1/2 per cent higher, with unusually large transactions.

Exchange closed at 129 1/2.

Money was abundant at 4 1/2 per cent.

The usual trade tables for the week will be found in the money article.

The cotton market on Saturday was again irregular and sales limited.

Large holders in most instances withdrew their supplies from the market, while purchasers only operated as they could pick up small "necessity lots" at a smart concession in price, generally within the range of 44c. a bale, for middling uplands.

The transactions in small parcels totaled up about 150 bales.

Flour, in consequence of higher rates of sterling exchange, advanced about 5c. per bbl., with moderate sales.

Wheat was firmer, and 1c. a 3c. higher, while sales were active.

Corn improved 1c. per bushel, and was tolerably active, the sales including sound and prime old Western mixed at 56c. a 57c.

Pork was unchanged, while the demand was fair.

The sales embraced meat at \$10 7/8 to \$10 87 1/2, with some heavy barrels reported at \$11, and prime at \$9 7/8 to \$9 1/2.

Lard was firm and active.

Sugars were in good demand and prices firm.

Coffee was quiet, but firm.

Freights were out with a fair amount of engagements, at unchanged rates.

President Lincoln's Confiscation Proclamation—Progress and Prospects of the War.

For the purpose of liberally aiding in their seasonable circulation among all parties concerned, we republish this morning the President's confiscation proclamation, and the act and supplemental act of Congress to which this proclamation refers.

It will be seen from the first of these acts that this sixty days' notice of the President is limited to the comparatively innocent masses of our Southern people, who have been carried away from their proper allegiance by the pressure of this rebellion.

They are allowed these sixty days' grace, while the leading conspirators and office holders, civil and military, of the Confederate and State governments in the service of the rebellion, are liable to all the pains and penalties of this Confiscation bill from the day of its approval.

It will next be observed, from the supplemental act or resolution passed in pursuance of the President's suggestions, that the confiscations of the real estate under the aforesaid law are only to apply during the lifetime of the guilty parties concerned, as enjoined by the constitution of the United States.

The President having previously caused the issue of a general order from the War Office in regard to the employment of negroes in the army, we presume that, with this brief and simply conventional proclamation, he has said all that he intends to say in the interpretation and enforcement of this Confiscation bill.

Both as a military and as a judicial measure he touches it very gingerly.

He evidently considers it a channel leading out into the boundless sea of anarchy.

He still desires to treat our revolted States and their people as within the reach of a magnanimous forbearance.

The paramount object of the radical abolition majority of Congress in the passage of this bill was the emancipation of the slaves of the South.

The provisions of the bill to this end are sweeping and decisive; but, as they do not embrace a proclamation from the President on the subject, he has not issued one.

Unquestionably, if his views of the act, as a war measure, were identical with those of Senators Sumner and Chandler, and such abolition disorganizers, his first proceeding would have been a flaming appeal to the slaves of Southern rebels to rush within the protecting lines of our army, and be free.

As President Lincoln's great object, however, is not the abolition of slavery, but the restoration of the Union, he very wisely keeps the negro in the background as far as possible.

Hence, in his manifestoes on this Confiscation act, he says nothing about negro emancipation.

He does not, at this critical period of the war, desire to destroy at a single blow—that is, in a proclamation of freedom to Southern slaves—the invaluable foothold which we have gained against this rebellion in the border slave States; but he wishes to retain their support.

He believes, too, that our twenty-three millions of loyal free whites, including the border slave States devoted to the Union, are strong enough to cope with the five millions of whites devoted to this rebellion, without calling upon their three millions of slaves to help us.

If they choose to come within our military lines they will be taken care of; but their liberation is very properly treated by our patriotic President as an incidental and secondary question.

We have no doubt that the sagacious policy of President Lincoln in regard to this Confiscation bill has been strongly supported by Mr. Seward, whose distinguished course, as the head of the State Department, has won for him the universal approbation of our loyal people.

In this connection we are gratified with the assurances lately emanating from Washington that Mr. Seward is entirely at the service of the President, and has no higher ambition, in any event, than the maintenance of the Union.

We are also glad to believe that, with the appointment of General Halleck as the General-in-Chief of the army, we have the promise of perfect harmony and co-operation in the Cabinet in reference to the movements of our armies and the generals commanding them.

In all these matters General Halleck will take the place of Mr. Secretary Stanton, who will have quite enough to do to look after the supplies and our swindling army jobbers and contractors.

Next, in the fact that General Halleck has gone down upon a visit to General McClellan, the country will be gratified with the assurance of a "happy accord" between those two distinguished officers, and that our new General-in-Chief proceeds in the right way to supply the present wants and to provide for the future operations of General McClellan's army.

Meantime, as the headquarters of General Pope are still at Washington, there can be no doubt that he already is thoroughly posted with the programme in which he and General McClellan are to co-operate against the great rebel army of Virginia.

The President, the Cabinet and the army appear to be working more cordially together than at any previous time since the outbreak of this rebellion.

The general direction of the war is again in the hands of a skillful, experienced and accomplished soldier.

From the time that it was taken away from General McClellan, and placed in the hands of a lawyer, we may date our military reverses, disappointments and disasters in the all important field of Virginia.

Now we have every reason to hope that a succession of brilliant victories will soon be opened.

The work of reinforcing our two armies of Virginia, upon which the destinies of this country now depend, is going encouragingly on; but the more rapidly the reduced regiments of Gen. McClellan and General Pope are filled up, the more certainly and speedily will great victories be secured.

Five hundred recruits to fill up a regiment of veterans will be worth more for the work immediately before us than two full regiments of raw volunteers, officers and privates.

Let the energies and preferences of all concerned in the good work of raising soldiers be devoted, first, to the important task of filling up the blanks in our veteran regiments; for thus one hundred thousand men will be worth twice or thrice that number of raw recruits for active service in the field.

Let us hear that the wasted regiments of McClellan and Pope are replenished, and we shall next hear of a great rise of stocks in Wall street.

In keeping up the full strength of our experienced regiments we maintain an army of veteran soldiers.

The Confiscation bill being disposed of, and the new war policy and programme of the administration being clear and satisfactory, all that remains to be done to turn the tide against the rebels is to fill up at once the reduced ranks of our armies.

Meeting of the Crowned Heads of Europe.

By our latest intelligence from the other side of the Atlantic we learn that in September next a meeting is to take place between the three principal crowned heads of continental Europe—the Emperor of the East, the Emperor of the West and the King of the Centre.

Austria is omitted from this conference, because that nation, by her conduct with France and Sardinia, has sunk to the position of a second or third class Power; and besides, the affairs of Italy are not yet finally settled.

The meeting of the Emperors of France and Russia and the King of Prussia forbodes some important moves on the chessboard of the European continent.

That it has any reference to intervention in our intestine war we cannot believe.

Mr. Seward, the only man who has shown himself an able statesman in our foreign policy as well as in our domestic strife, has long since secured the neutrality of France, and with it that of all Europe.

The meeting, therefore, will have nothing to do with American intervention.

Yet we have not the slightest doubt that it is the result of the American war. As the War of Independence led to the Revolution in France and the progress of liberal ideas all over Europe, which have continued in operation till this day, so the present war has given a new impetus to those ideas and stirred the heart of democracy to its depths.

The immense resources the republic has displayed, and the vast preparations by land and sea, have excited the admiration of the masses of the European population and the envy of their despotic rulers.

The struggle in which we are engaged, while it has called forth expressions of the most bitter hatred of the aristocracy of Europe, has elicited the sympathies of its people.

The political effects of the war, therefore, upon the principal nations of Europe, added to financial, commercial and manufacturing embarrassments caused by the blockade, have roused the vigilance of the rulers, and led them to consult each other as to the best mode of preventing revolution in Europe.

Napoleon sees that France is now like a heaving volcano, which may at any moment overflow in torrents of fiery lava, destroying everything in its way.

His situation is precarious, and, like a man of sagacity, as he is, he looks ahead.

Russia is in a very revolutionary condition. Not only is Poland unsettled, but all Russia is in a disturbed state, owing to its transition from serfdom and feudal institutions to limited freedom.

Germany is discontented, and is ripe for revolution.

Prussia, now its chief State, has the greatest interest in repressing republican ideas.

Thus the three sovereigns are putting their heads together, lest they should soon find them without crowns.

They will concert measures to check the first symptoms of rebellion; but if our war continues much longer they may find that all their precautions cannot avail them, and that the flowing tide of revolution may sweep away their thrones and leave them stranded wrecks upon the shore.

England and Our Tariff.

English statesmen and public men appear to us, in some certain respects, to be plunged into a deep lethargy, and to have fallen into a condition of the most complete mental somnolency and oblivion.

They seem to have either forgotten or to have sponged out of their minds a large piece of past history.

They appear to ignore the fact that many years ago there occurred a great revolution in the world, and a great nation sprang into existence, formed out of a people who before were colonies of Great Britain.

They seem to think and act as if these United States were still dependent colonies of the British throne, and to forget that we are an independent people, free to make our own laws and to regulate as we please our intercourse with foreign nations.

Do we at any time think proper to make any change in our tariff—to lay on or take off any duties, to admit or prohibit any particular importation—these men—arrogant publicists; for we do not confound them with the English people generally; they are not quite so arrogant and stupid—these men immediately raise a violent outcry and assume to be very shamefully and unjustly treated.

They talk and reason as if they had to do with a colonial, dependent people, who have no right to frame laws which militate, or appear to militate, against British interests.

Such assumption and arrogance are really amusing—they are positively ridiculous.

They are contrary to reason, contrary to national amity, and contrary to the practice and habitual policy of the British government in all ages.

When England lays prohibitory duties on French wines, does she ask leave of France? Do the French raise an outcry that they are shamefully treated, and call upon the British Parliament to modify its laws? No such thing.

The English are not so mean as to ask leave of France how to regulate their custom house tariff, nor are the French so ignorant or arrogant as to vituperate the English for taking the liberty of acting as they please in their own affairs.

Now, all we ask is the same measure of fairness and simple justice.

For the last ten years, or even further back, the United States have been gradually becoming formidable rivals to England in the career of national industry and productions.

In many manufactures we even compete with England in the market of the world.

We send our cottons to the interior of Africa, to China and to the Indies, and our merchant ships crowd every sea and ocean in the civilized world.

Can the English be so insane as to complain of our progress, and demand imperiously of us such a tariff as will suit them and their commercial policy better than ourselves and our own interests?

In sober gentleness and kindness, we would let England know that we shall pursue our own course, only smiling at her arrogant reproaches and despising her exalting requirements.

We have all the elements required by an inventive, energetic and enterprising people to create wealth unbounded.

Our resources in wool, cotton, iron, lead, coal, and all the numerous materials of manufacture, excepting French silks, are such as to give us the advantage over England in manufactures.

Our forests supply us with all the requirements of a great commercial navy.

In all these things, without a shadow of boasting or vanity, it may be truly said we greatly surpass the English.

But, what is more, we have an inventive, ingenious, industrious people, ready to turn all these abundant elements of wealth to good account.

What, then, would England have? What does she mean by her complaints against us because of the enactment of our tariff? Would she have us remain idle, in order to give employment to her workmen rather than to our own? But we will let England what we would have and what we mean by our tariff.

We mean to invite foreign capitalists to bring their capital and their workmen over here among us, to work up, as part of ourselves, the rich materials of wealth which lie in abundance around us.

We mean to supply the world rather than to depend on the world to supply us.

We mean to do as England has done—to go ahead.

Can she justly complain of this, or of the means we adopt to procure this? Certainly not.

We have never complained of the industry and productions and commercial enterprise of England, and therefore let her stop her mouth and cease to complain of our industrial and commercial policy.

That is what we will have, and what we mean.

Furthermore, we would have England (or rather English statesmen) to be a little more reasonable, and even rational, in their dispositions upon our laws and policy.

She pursues her own interest. We simply claim the right of doing the same thing.

THE CARTEL FOR THE RELEASE OF UNION AND CONFEDERATE PRISONERS.—We are glad to learn that Major General Dix, commissioner on the part of the federal government, and Major General Hill, on the part of the rebels, have agreed upon a cartel for the exchange of the numerous prisoners now in our own hands and in those of the enemy.

This arrangement will be brought into operation immediately, so that there will be no more delay or difficulty in the release of our Union soldiers who have so long been languishing in Southern prisons.

The new cartel is based upon the principle of that of the War of 1812, between the United States and Great Britain, by which a system for the proper treatment, release and exchange of all prisoners was clearly specified.

That document was signed by General Mason, Commissary General of prisoners on the part of the United States, and Colonel Barclay, general agent for prisoners on the part of Great Britain.

Among other things it was stipulated that two cartel vessels, of the burden of five hundred tons together, should be constantly kept by each government in the service of removing the prisoners of each side, to be released on account or exchanged.

Accompanying this arrangement was a sliding scale defining the numbers to be exchanged for a general, a colonel, a captain and other officers of rank.

The United States government immediately fitted and dispatched two vessels to the West Indies, where many American prisoners were confined.

Two British vessels were in like manner ordered to New York to take away the imprisoned subjects of the English crown.

These vessels were known as cartel ships; and the American vessels were required to bring their released prisoners to Providence, Rhode Island, one of the stations agreed on for the exchange of prisoners of war.

This plan was found to operate very successfully, and we suppose some similar understanding has been come to on this occasion.

This will be cheering news to hundreds of families in the loyal States who see friends have long been absent from their homes.

action of the federal government, in its efforts for the release of those who have so faithfully served the Union cause, will meet with a hearty response throughout the country, and tend not a little to stir up the ardor of the people to take up arms for its defence.

We believe we have about fifteen thousand rebels as prisoners, and the rebels have about twelve thousand Union soldiers confined in Southern prisons.

THE OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE CAPTURE OF NEW ORLEANS.—We have received from the Navy Department a copy of the official report of the capture of forts Jackson and St. Philip, and the city of New Orleans.

The capture of the work, which is published in octavo form, introduces the reader to the entire series of brilliant actions which gave to the national arms, on the 24th of April last, possession of the great commercial city of the South—up to the time of attack and capture the most remote from the scene of active hostilities.

It contains plans, maps, diagrams and cuts of forts Jackson and St. Philip, of the approaches thereto, of the rebel rams Louisiana and Manassas, and graphic and concise reports of the unparalleled naval engagement which resulted in our complete success and the utter discomfiture of the rebels.

The work will be read with great interest, and we hail it as the first instalment of a regular continuation of like reports of the war from headquarters which we hope to see published from time to time.

This single work, in itself, is vastly more valuable than whole tomes of the useless rubbish ordered by Congress session after session, and which, costing the country thousands and hundreds of thousands, is never read by the people.

Nothing could give the country greater satisfaction than to be assured that the government would immediately issue similar authorized publications for general information; and such an assurance, while due to the people at large, would be the most powerful incentive to individual heroism that could be devised—just to the country, just to the individual, soldier and seaman.

To the present time the HERALD, and, in their lesser spheres of public usefulness, the other newspapers of the free States, have been the only chroniclers of devotion to the country, of sacrifices therefor, and acts of heroism which Grecian or Roman history, in the purest and best times of those republics, only can produce rare examples of.

In the work to which we refer will be found the reports of officers commanding, speaking for themselves; their commendations to the department of superiors in command under them; of the gallant rank and file; with the list of the killed and wounded—this to the latter an honorable record for future reference, for the former a silent but deathless memento to keep alive the gratitude of a free and grateful people.

We would recommend the government to at once undertake the publication of all official reports of engagements between the national troops and the rebels, by land and sea, that have up to the present time taken place, and to continue the same until the rebellion is finally crushed out, and thus bequeath to posterity a salutary